

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing the
2 antimicrobial effectiveness of an antibiotic comprising the step of combining the
3 antibiotic with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid,
4 wherein an effective antimicrobial combination consists essentially of the
5 antibiotic and the citric acid and/or salts of citric acid.

Claims 2-24 (Cancelled).

1 25. (Currently Amended) A topical antimicrobial composition
2 ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of an antibiotic combined with at least 1% by
3 weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1,
2 wherein the antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of vancomycin and
3 ampicillin.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The topical antimicrobial according
2 to Claim 25, wherein the antibiotic is selected from the group consisting of
3 vancomycin and ampicillin.
